

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of matching a shaper and a corresponding patch in a kit for treating ischemic congestive heart failure comprising the steps of:

selecting a shaper of an appropriate size for a patient; and
selecting a patch of an appropriate size for said patient, wherein said patch size is determined at least in part according to the shaper selected.

2. A kit for treating ischemic congestive heart failure comprising a shaping device and a patch, wherein said shaping device is appropriately sized for a patient and wherein said patch is sized according to the size of the shaping device such that said patch is also appropriately sized for said patient.

3. The kit of Claim 2 further comprising suture having a plurality of sections wherein at least one of said sections comprises a superelastic or shape memory material.

4. A kit for treating ischemic congestive heart failure comprising a shaping device and a suture, wherein said shaping device is appropriately sized for a patient and wherein said suture is sized according to the size of the shaping device such that said suture is also appropriately sized for said patient.

5. A kit for treating ischemic congestive heart failure comprising a patch and a suture, wherein said patch is appropriately sized for a patient and wherein said suture is sized according to the size of the patch such that said suture is also appropriately sized for said patient.

6. A method for treating ischemic congestive heart failure in a patient comprising the steps of:

identifying akinetic tissue within a heart chamber wall;
making an incision through the akinetic tissue in the chamber wall;
inserting a shaping device and a patch into the chamber through the incision,
wherein said shaping device and patch are attached;
removing the shaping device; and
closing the incision.

7. The method of Claim 6 further comprising the step of at least partially securing said patch to the chamber wall.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein said patch comprises a device to aid in securing the patch to the heart chamber wall.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein said device to aid in securing the patch comprises one or more barbs.

10. The method of Claim 6, wherein said patch comprises a superelastic or shape memory material.

11. The method of Claim 6, wherein said shaping device comprises a superelastic or shape memory material.

12. A method for treating ischemic congestive heart failure in a patient comprising the steps of:

inserting a deployment device into the patient's atrium;

guiding the deployment device through the patient's mitral valve into a patient's left ventricle;

inserting a shaping device through said deployment device into the left ventricle;

reshaping said left ventricle by bringing one or more walls of said left ventricle against said shaping device; and

removing said shaping device.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein said deployment device comprises a catheter.

14. An endoscopic method for treating ischemic congestive heart failure in a patient comprising the steps of:

identifying akinetic tissue within a heart chamber wall;

making an incision through the akinetic tissue in the chamber wall;

inserting a shaping device into the chamber through the incision;

positioning the shaping device against a first side of said heart chamber wall;

applying a clamp to a second side of said heart chamber wall such that said clamp draws said heart chamber wall closer to said shaping device;

removing said shaping device; and

closing the incision.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein said clamp comprises a superelastic or shape memory material.

16. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of excluding the akinetic tissue.

17. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of initiating a closing suture while the shaper is inside the chamber thereby bringing the kinetic tissue closer together to improve the size and shape of the chamber.

18. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of at least partially securing to the chamber wall, a patch comprising a superelastic or shape memory material.

19. The method of Claim 14, wherein the step of making an incision comprises using an endoscope with an incising tip.

20. The method of Claim 14, wherein the step of inserting a shaping device comprises using an endoscope to place the shaping device within the chamber.

21. The method of Claim 14, wherein the step of inserting a shaping device comprises moving the shaping device relative to a sheath so as to permit the shaping device to assume a natural size and shape.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein the shaping device can assume one of two or more sizes selectable by moving the shaping device different distances relative to the sheath.

23. The method of Claim 14, wherein said clamp can remain in place on said heart chamber wall after the procedure has been completed.